

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7231

BILL NUMBER: HB 1500

DATE PREPARED: Jan 6, 1999

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Cultural Diversity Courses for Teachers.

FISCAL ANALYST: David Hoppmann

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill would require the Professional Standards Board (the Board) to do the following: 1) identify courses at the various teacher training institutions in Indiana that qualify as courses on cultural diversity; and 2) determine on an individual basis whether particular courses taken outside of Indiana qualify as courses on cultural diversity.

It would prohibit the governing body of a school corporation from hiring an individual who receives an initial standard or reciprocal teaching license after March 31, 2001, unless the individual provides written evidence that the individual has successfully completed at least one college course on cultural diversity.

This bill would define the term "course on cultural diversity".

Effective Date: Upon passage; July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Under current law, the Board is not required to compile information concerning cultural diversity requirements relating to the accreditation of teachers who attended teacher training institutions outside of Indiana. This bill would require the Board to do so on an individual basis.

The Board reports that it receives approximately 1,900 out-of-state applications per year, and evaluates approximately two such transcripts per day. In order to process the same number of applicants as it does now, while fulfilling the requirements of this bill, the Board reports that it would require two additional PAT I level educational consultants at approximately \$45,000 each.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: 1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; 2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; and 3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified.

Based on the 9/30/98 Indiana HRM Staffing Report, 12 of the Board's 30 authorized positions are currently vacant.

Of the 12 vacancies, one is an Education Consultant position. Assuming that this position remains unfilled until the bill's effective date, it is possible that only one Education Consultant would be needed by the Board (in addition to the already authorized position which is currently vacant). However, the Board reports that it would require two additional consultants in addition to the currently vacant position.

Other sources to fund additional staff could originate from funds that, otherwise, would be reverted, or from new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill would depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Professional Standards Board.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Marilyn Scannell, Professional Standards Board, (317) 232-9000; Tom Hansen, Professional Standards Board, (317) 232-9043; Indiana HRM Staffing Report (9/30/98).